

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
18 March 2004 (18.03.2004)

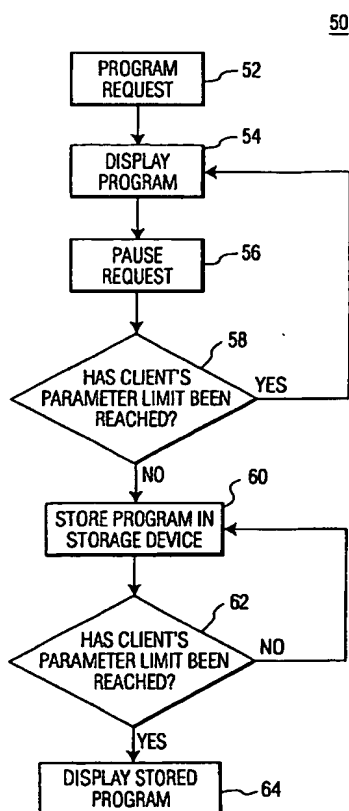
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/023786 A2**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H04N** Wayne [US/US]; 10350 Ruckle Street, Indianapolis, IN 46280 (US).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/027989 (74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S.** et al.; c/o Thomson Licensing Inc., Two Independence Way, Suite #200, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US).
- (22) International Filing Date: 5 September 2003 (05.09.2003) (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/408,390 5 September 2002 (05.09.2002) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOMSON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46, Quai A. Le Gallo, F-92648 Boulogne (FR).
- (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **LOCKRIDGE, Terry,** (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MEMORY PVR FUNCTIONS IN A BROADCAST ENVIRONMENT



(57) Abstract: A method and system for providing personal video recording ("PVR") functions to a client viewing a broadcast program in a multi-client network (10). To provide the PVR functions, predetermined storage limits are allocated for each client in a storage device (32) on the network (10). Each client is permitted to execute the PVR functions if the client's stored broadcast programming has not reached the client's predetermined storage limit. Otherwise, the client is only permitted to view the broadcast program in real time or the stored broadcast program. A client may clear space in the client's allocated portion of the storage device by fast-forwarding through stored broadcast programming.

WO 2004/023786 A2



SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

**Published:**

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*